Message Text

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P R 281856Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM, MA

SUBJECT: DISRUPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

NAIROBI FOR RCO

REF: (A) PRETORIA 653, (B) TANANARIVE 341

- 1. REF (A) IS QUOTED UNNUMBERED TELEGRAM FROM TANANARIVE DATED FEB 22.
- 2. LATEST INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION CONVENTION IS DATED 1973 (MALAGO-TORREMOLINOS). APPLICABLE ARTICLES OF NEW ITU CONVENTION WOULD BE 19 AND 20 WHICH FOLLOW: QUOTE

ARTICLE 19 - STOPPAGE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1. MEMBERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO STOP THE TRANSMISSION OF
ANY PRIVATE TELEGRAM WHICH MAY APPEAR DANGEROUS TO THE
SECURITY OF THE STATE OR CONTRARY TO THEIR LAWS, TO PUBLIC
ORDER OR TO DECENCY, PROVIDED THAT THEY IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY
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THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN OF THE STOPPAGE OF ANY SUCH TELEGRAM

OR ANY PART THEREOF, EXCEPT WHEN SUCH NOTIFICATION MAY APPEAR DANGEROUS TO THE SECURITY OF THE STATE.

2. MEMBERS ALSO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CUT OFF ANY OTHER PRIVATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS WHICH MAY APPEAR DANGEROUS TO

THE SECURITY OF THE STATE OR CONTRARY TO THEIR LAWS, TO PUBLIC ORDER OR TO DECENCY.

ARTICLE 20 - SUSPENSION OF SERVICES
EACH MEMBER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SUSPEND THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE FOR AN INDEFINITE TIME,
EITHER GENERALLY OR ONLY FOR CERTAIN RELATIONS AND/OR FOR
CERTAIN KINDS OF CORRESPONDENCE, OUTGOING, INCOMING OR IN
TRANSIT, PROVIDED THAT IT IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIES SUCH
ACTION TO EACH OF THE OTHER MEMBERS THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. UNQUOTE.

- 3. POST SHOULD REVIEW ARTICLE 27 OF VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WHICH IN ESSENCE STATES THAT HOST COUNTRY SHALL PERMIT MISSIONS TO HAVE ACCESS AND USE COMMUNICATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF ITS DIPLOMATIC BUSINESS.
- 4. BELIEVE VIENNA CONVENTION ARTICLE MORE RELEVANT IN THIS CASE THAN ITU CONVENTION. IF RESPONSE SENT BELIEVE POST SHOULD EMPHASIZE THIS. IT APPEARS GOMR TRYING TO EVADE RESPONSIBILITY CALLED FOR UNDER VIENNA CONVENTION BY INTRODUCING ITU CONVENTION ARTICLES INTO PICTURE.
- 5. PLEASE KEEP DEPT ADVISED OF SITUATION. KISSINGER

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